

The CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS SECTION was amended with a replacement section that includes the instant Application's parent, U.S. Application No. 09/501,707 filed February 10, 2000.

The specification has been amended to add sequence identifiers to sequences in the specification as filed in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.821-1.825.

In the "BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS" new sequence identifiers were added to properly identify all sequences in the specification as filed. Paragraphs for each of the descriptors of SEQ ID NOS:98-102 were added immediately prior to the paragraph heading ":Detailed Description of the Invention", on page 12, line 28 of the specification.

In the paragraph beginning on page 8, line 14, the sequences referenced by SEQ ID NOS:46 and 47 were amended to comply with the sequences as depicted on Figure 5 originally filed with the application. The paragraph beginning at page 31, line 8, (Table 3) was amended by a replacement paragraph which also adds sequence identifiers SEQ ID NOS:98-102 in order to further describe these sequences in the Sequence Listing.

The paragraph beginning at page 68, line 20 was amended by a replacement paragraph to insert sequence identifiers SEQ ID NO: 54 and SEQ ID NO: 51 to comply with the requirements 37 C.F.R. §1.821.

The specification has been amended to correct the fact that sequence identifier SEQ ID NO:78 was originally used to identify two different sequences. The second of these sequences, oligonucleotide CCCGAAGAGCCCGGCCGGAGGGGCAGCTTTGTCGA, has been reidentified as SEQ ID NO:98, in the paragraph beginning on page 8, line 31, of the specification.

The paragraphs containing descriptors for SEQ ID NOS: 51 and 54, on lines 4 and 8 respectively of page 11, have been amended to more clearly describe the nature of the sequences. Support for this amendment can be found in the paragraph beginning on page 68, line 20 of the specification.

The paragraph beginning on page 11, line 29 has been amended to remove the recited sequence, which correctly describes SEQ ID NO: 72 (obvious from the length of the sequence), but which is superfluous in view of the Sequence Listing.

The paragraph beginning on page 30, line 5, containing the descriptor of SEQ ID NO: 56 was amended by a replacement paragraph to correct an obvious error. The internal peptide is correctly shown in FIG. 5 (block described as "internal peptide sequence") with a "G" (glycine) in position 2 thereof. The transcription error was inadvertent and without deceptive intent.

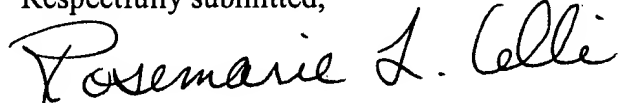
Claims 47, 77, 85, and 106 have been amended to insert sequence identifiers in the place of the recited peptide fragment sequences.

Applicants submit that no new matter is added by the foregoing amendments to the specification. Accordingly, entry of this amendment is respectfully requested.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification by the amendment. The attached page is captioned "VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE."

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,



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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

THE SPECIFICATION:

The CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS section has been amended as follows:

This application is a continuation of U.S. Application No. 09/501,708 filed February 10, 2000 which, claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application Numbers 60/119,571 filed 2/10/1999, now abandoned, and 60/139,172 filed 6/15/99, now abandoned, each[both] of which are hereby incorporated herein by reference in their [entireties] entirety.

The BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE FIGURES section has been deleted and replaced with the following replacement BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE FIGURES section.

FIG. 1A shows the sequence of a polynucleotide (SEQ ID NO: 1) which encodes human β -secretase translation product shown in FIG. 2A.

FIG. 1B shows the polynucleotide of FIG. 1A, including putative 5'- and 3'- untranslated regions (SEQ ID NO: 44).

FIG. 2A shows the amino acid sequence (SEQ ID NO: 2)[1-501] of the predicted translation product of the open reading frame of the polynucleotide sequence shown in FIGS. 1A and 1B.

FIG. 2B shows the amino acid sequence of an active fragment of human β -secretase (SEQ ID NO: 43)[46-501].

FIG. 3A shows the translation product that encodes an active fragment of human β -secretase, 452stop, (amino acids 1-452 with reference to SEQ ID NO: 2; SEQ ID NO: 59) including a FLAG-epitope tag (underlined; SEQ ID NO: 45) at the C-terminus.

FIG. 3B shows the amino acid sequence of a fragment of human β -secretase (amino acids 46-452 (SEQ ID NO: 58) with reference to SEQ ID NO: 2; including a FLAG-epitope tag (underlined; SEQ ID NO: 45) at the C-terminus.

FIG. 4 shows an elution profile of recombinant β -secretase eluted from a gel filtration column.

FIG. 5 shows the full length amino acid sequence of β -secretase 1-501 (SEQ ID NO: 2), including the ORF which encodes it (SEQ ID NO: 1), with certain features indicated, such as "active-D" sites indicating the aspartic acid active catalytic sites, a transmembrane region

commencing at position 453, as well as leader ("Signal") sequence (residues 1-[22]21; SEQ ID NO: 46) and putative pro region (residues [23] 22-45; SEQ ID NO: 47) and where the polynucleotide region corresponding the proenzyme region corresponding to amino acids 46-501 (SEQ ID NO: 43)(nt 135-1503) is shown as SEQ ID NO: 44.

FIGS. 6A and 6B show images of silver-stained SDS-PAGE gels on which purified β -secretase-containing fractions were run under reducing (6A) and non-reducing (6B) conditions.

FIG. 7 shows a silver-stained SDS-PAGE of β -secretase purified from heterologous 293T cells expressing the recombinant enzyme.

FIG. 8 shows a silver-stained SDS-PAGE of β -secretase purified from heterologous Cos A2 cells expressing the recombinant enzyme.

FIG. 9 shows a scheme in which primers derived from the polynucleotide (SEQ ID NO. 76 encoding N-terminus of purified naturally occurring β -secretase (SEQ ID NO. 77) were used to PCR-clone additional portions of the molecule, such as fragment SEQ ID NO. 79 encoding by nucleic acid SEQ ID NO. 98[78], as illustrated.

FIG. 10 shows an alignment of the amino acid sequence of human β -secretase ("Human Impain.seq," 1-501, SEQ ID NO: 2) compared to ("pBS/mImpain H#3 cons") consensus mouse sequence: SEQ ID NO: 65.

FIG. 11A shows the nucleotide sequence (SEQ ID NO: 80) of an insert used in preparing vector pCF.

FIG. 11B shows a linear schematic of pCEK.

FIG. 12 shows a schematic of pCEK.clone 27 used to transfect mammalian cells with β -secretase.

FIG. 13(A-E) shows the nucleotide sequence of pCEK clone 27 (SEQ ID NO: 48), with the [OFR] ORF indicated by the amino acid sequence SEQ ID NO: 2.

FIG. 14A shows the a nucleotide sequence inserted into parent vector pCDNA3 (SEQ ID NO: 80).

FIG. 14B shows a plot of β -secretase activity in cell lysates from COS cells transfected with vectors derived from clones encoding β -secretase.

FIGS. 15A shows an image of an SDS PAGE gel loaded with triplicate samples of the lysates made from heterologous cells transfected with mutant APP (751 wt) and β -galactosidase as control (lanes d) and from cells transfected with mutant APP (751 wt) and β -secretase (lanes f)

where lanes a, b, and c show lysates from untreated cells, cells transfected with β -galactosidase alone and cells transfected with β -secretase alone, respectively, and lane e indicates markers.

FIG. 15B shows an image of an SDS PAGE gel loaded with triplicate samples of the lysates made from heterologous cells transfected with mutant APP (Swedish mutation) and β -galactosidase as control (lanes c) and from cells transfected with mutant APP (Swedish mutation) and β -secretase (lanes e) where lanes a and b show lysates from cells transfected with β -galactosidase alone and cells transfected with β -secretase alone, and lane d indicates markers.

FIGS. 16A and 16B show Western blots of cell supernatants tested for presence or increase in soluble APP (sAPP).

FIGS. 17A and 17B show Western blots of α -cleaved APP substrate in co-expression cells.

FIG. 18 shows A β (x-40) production in 293T cells cotransfected with APP and β -secretase.

FIG. 19A shows a schematic of an APP substrate fragment, and its use in conjunction with antibodies SW192 and 8E-192 in the assay.

FIG. 19B shows the β -secretase cleavage sites in the wild-type APP sequence (SEQ ID NO: 103) and Swedish APP sequence (SEQ ID NO: 104).

FIG. 20 shows a schematic of a second APP substrate fragment derived from APP 638, and its use in conjunction with antibodies SW192 and 8E-192 in the assay.

FIG. 21 shows a schematic of pohCK751 vector.

The paragraph at page 11, lines 4-5, has been amended as follows:

SEQ ID NO: 51 is [the predicted internal amino acid sequence of a portion of human β -secretase.] a peptide sequence cleavage site of APP (Swedish mutation).

The paragraph at page 11, line 8, has been amended as follows:

SEQ ID NO: 54 is a peptide sequence cleavage site of APP (wild type) recognized by human β -secretase.

The paragraph at page 11, line 29, has been amended as follows:

SEQ ID NO: 73 is P4-P4'staD \rightarrow V₂ [(KTEEISEVN[sta]VAEF).]

The paragraph beginning at page 30, line 5 has been amended as follows:

The full-length open reading frame (ORF) of human β -secretase is described above, and its sequence is shown in FIG. 2A as SEQ ID NO: 2. However, as mentioned above, a further discovery of the present invention indicates that the predominant form of the active, naturally occurring molecule is truncated at the N-terminus by about 45 amino acids. That is, the protein purified from natural sources was N-terminal sequenced according to methods known in the art (Argo Bioanalytica, Morris Plains, NJ.). The N-terminus yielded the following sequence:

EGDEEPEEPGRRGSFVEMVDNLRG... (SEQ ID NO: 55).

[ETDEEPEEPGRRGSFVEMVDNLRG... (SEQ ID NO: 55).] This corresponds to amino acids 46-69 of the ORF-derived putative sequence. Based on this observation and others described below, the N-terminus of an active, naturally occurring, predominant human brain form of the enzyme is amino acid 46, with respect to SEQ ID NO: 2. Further processing of the purified protein provided the sequence of an internal peptide: IGFAVSACHVHDEFR [ISFAVSACHVHDEFR] (SEQ ID NO: 56), which is amino terminal to the putative transmembrane domain, as defined by the ORF. These peptides were used to validate and provide reading frame information for the isolated clones described elsewhere in this application.

The paragraph beginning at page 31, line 8, (Table 3) has been amended as follows:

Table 3

N-terminal Sequences and Amounts of β -secretase Forms in Various Cell Types

Source	Est. Amount (pmoles)	N-terminus (Ref.: SEQ ID NO: 2)	Sequence
Human brain	1-2	46	ETDEEPEEPGR[...] (SEQ ID NO: 99)
Recombinant, 293T	~35 ~7 ~5	46 22 63	ETDEEPEEPGR[...] (SEQ ID NO: 99) TQHGIRL(P)LR[...] (SEQ ID NO: 100) MVDNLRGKS[...] (SEQ ID NO: 101)
Recombinant, CosA2	~4 ~3	46 58	ETDEEPEEPGR[...] (SEQ ID NO: 99) GSFVEMVDNL[...] (SEQ ID NO: 102)

The paragraph beginning at page 68, line 20 has been amended as follows:

Recombinant proteins were generated with both the wild-type APP sequence (MBP-C125 wt) at the cleavage site (..Val-Lys-Met-Asp-Ala..) (SEQ ID NO: 54) or the "Swedish" double mutation (MBP-C125 sw) (..Val-Asn-Leu-Asp-Ala..) (SEQ ID NO: 51). As shown schematically in FIG. 19A, cleavage of the intact MBP-fusion protein results in the generation of a truncated amino-terminal fragment, with the new SW-192 Ab-positive epitope uncovered at the carboxy terminus. This amino-terminal fragment can be recognized on Western blots with the same Ab, or, quantitatively, using an anti-MBP capture-biotinylated SW-192 reporter sandwich format, as shown in FIG. 19A. Anti-MBP polyclonal antibodies were raised in rabbits (Josman Labs, Berkeley) by immunization with purified recombinantly expressed MBP (New England Biolabs). Antisera were affinity purified on a column of immobilized MBP. MBP-C125 SW and WT substrates were expressed in *E. coli*, then purified as described above.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows.

47. (Amended) The composition of claim 46, wherein said β -secretase-cleavable fragment [is] has a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 82, SEQ ID NO: 83, SEQ ID NO: 84, SEQ ID NO: 85, SEQ ID NO: 86, SEQ ID NO: 87, SEQ ID NO: 88, SEQ ID NO: 89, SEQ ID NO: 90, SEQ ID NO: 91, SEQ ID NO: 92, SEQ ID NO: 93, SEQ ID NO: 94, SEQ ID NO: 95, and SEQ ID NO: 96 [SEVKMDAEF (P5-P4'wt), SEVNLDAEF (sw), SEVKLDAEF, SEVKFDAEF, SEVNFDAEF, SEVKMAAEF, SEVNLAEEF, SEVKLAAEF; SEVKMLAEF, SEVNLLAEF, SEVKLLAEF, SEVKFAAEF, SEVNFAAEF, SEVKFLAEF, and SEVNFLAEF].

77. (Amended) The cell of claim 76, wherein said β -secretase-cleavable fragment [is] has a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 82, SEQ ID NO: 83, SEQ ID NO: 84, SEQ ID NO: 85, SEQ ID NO: 86, SEQ ID NO: 87, SEQ ID NO: 88, SEQ ID NO: 89, SEQ ID NO: 90, SEQ ID NO: 91, SEQ ID NO: 92, SEQ ID NO: 93, SEQ ID NO: 94, SEQ ID NO: 95 and SEQ ID NO: 96 [SEVKMDAEF (P5-P4'wt), SEVNLDAEF (sw), SEVKLDAEF, SEVKFDAEF, SEVNFDAEF, SEVKMAAEF, SEVNLAEEF, SEVKLAAEF; SEVKMLAEF, SEVNLLAEF, SEVKLLAEF, SEVKFAAEF, SEVNFAAEF, SEVKFLAEF, and SEVNFLAEF].

85. (Amended) The method of claim 78, wherein said β -secretase-cleavable fragment [is] has a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 82, SEQ ID NO: 83, SEQ ID NO: 84, SEQ ID NO: 85, SEQ ID NO: 86, SEQ ID NO: 87, SEQ ID NO: 88, SEQ ID NO: 89, SEQ ID NO: 90, SEQ ID NO: 91, SEQ ID NO: 92, SEQ ID NO: 93, SEQ ID NO: 94, SEQ ID NO: 95, and SEQ ID NO: 96 [SEVKMDAEF (P5-P4'wt), SEVNLDAEF (sw), SEVKLDAEF, SEVKFDAEF, SEVNFDAEF, SEVKMAAEF, SEVNLAEEF, SEVKLAAEF; SEVKMLAEF, SEVNLLAEF, SEVKLLAEF, SEVKFAAEF, SEVNFAAEF, SEVKFLAEF, and SEVNFLAEF].

107. (Amended) The screening kit of claim 106, wherein said β -secretase-cleavable fragment [is] has a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 82, SEQ ID NO: 83, SEQ ID NO: 84, SEQ ID NO: 85, SEQ ID NO: 86, SEQ ID NO: 87, SEQ ID NO: 88, SEQ ID NO: 89, SEQ ID NO: 90, SEQ ID NO: 91, SEQ ID NO: 92, SEQ ID NO: 93, SEQ ID NO: 94, SEQ ID NO: 95, and SEQ ID NO: 96 [SEVKMDAEF (P5-P4'wt), SEVNLDAEF (sw), SEVKLDAEF, SEVKFDAEF, SEVNFDAEF, SEVKMAAEF, SEVNLAEEF, SEVKLAAEF; SEVKMLAEF, SEVNLLAEF, SEVKLLAEF, SEVKFAAEF, SEVNFAAEF, SEVKFLAEF, and SEVNFLAEF].